

What is claimed is:

1. A system for associating usage rights with digital works, said system comprising:
means for creating usage rights from a grammar, said usage rights specifying a manner of use indicating one or more stated purposes for which the digital work can be at least one of used and distributed by an authorized party:
means for associating the usage rights with a digital work.
2. The system as recited in claim 1, wherein the usage rights also specify one or more conditions which must be satisfied before the manner of use may be exercised.
3. The system as recited in claim 1, wherein said means for creating comprises means for selecting one or more symbols from a first set of predetermined symbols to define a valid sequence of symbols to indicate the manner of use.
4. The system as recited in claim 2, wherein said means for creating comprises means for selecting symbols from a second set of predetermined symbols to define a valid sequence of symbols to indicate the conditions.
5. The system as recited in claim 4, wherein means for creating comprises means for designating a set of default conditions.
6. The system as recited in claim 5 wherein said means for creating further comprises means for changing the default set of conditions.
7. The system as recited in claim 1 wherein the manner of use specifies a manner by which an authorized user is able to render the digital work.
8. The system as recited in claim 1 wherein the manner of use specifies the manner by which an authorized party can use the digital work to create a new digital work.

9. The system as recited in claim 1 wherein the manner of use specifies the manner by which an authorized party is able to make a back-up copy of the digital work.
10. The system as recited in claim 1 wherein the manner of use specifies the manner by which an authorized party is able to conceal the corresponding digital work on a device on which the digital work is stored.
11. The system as recited in claim 1 wherein the manner of use specifies the manner by which an authorized party is able to delete the digital work from a device on which digital work is stored.
12. The system as recited in claim 1 wherein the digital work is a software program.
13. The system as recited in claim 12 wherein the manner of use specifies the manner by which an authorized party is able to install the software program.
14. The system as recited in claim 12 wherein the manner of use specifies the manner by which an authorized party is able to uninstall the software program.
15. The system as recited in claim 1 wherein the usage rights comprise a revenue identifier for identifying a revenue owner of the digital work.
16. The system as recited in claim 1 wherein the usage rights comprise a class identifier for identifying a class of rendering devices upon which the digital work can be rendered.
17. The system as recited in claim 2 wherein said means for creating comprises means for creating a first version of usage rights having a first set of conditions and means for creating a second version of usage rights having a second set of conditions.

18. The system as recited in claim 3, wherein said means for creating comprises means for selecting one or more codes from a set of predetermined codes to define a valid sequence of codes to indicate the manner of use.

19. The system as recited in claim 3 wherein said means for creating comprises means for selecting one or more identifiers from a set of predetermined identifiers to define a valid sequence of identifiers to indicate the manner of use.

20. The system as recited in claim 3, wherein said means for creating comprises means for selecting one or more parameters from a set of predetermined parameters to define a valid sequence of parameters to indicate the manner of use.

21. The system as recited in any one of claims 1-20, wherein said means for creating and said means for designating, and said means for associating each comprise computer readable instructions recorded on media.

22. A method for associating usage rights with digital works, said method comprising:
creating usage rights from a grammar, said usage rights specifying a manner of use indicating one or more purposes of plural purposes for which the digital work can be at least one of used and distributed by an authorized party; and
associating the usage rights with a digital work.

23. The method as recited in claims 22, wherein the usage rights also specify one or more conditions which must be satisfied before the manner of use may be exercised.

24. The method as recited in claim 23, wherein the conditions comprise a set of default conditions.

25. The method as recited in claim 22, wherein said step of creating comprises selecting symbols from a first set of predetermined symbols to define a valid sequence of symbols to indicate the manner of use.

26. The method as recited in claim 23 wherein said step of creating comprises selecting one or more symbols from a second set of predetermined symbols to define a valid sequence of symbols to indicate the conditions.

27. The method as recited in claim 23 wherein said step of creating further comprises changing the default set of conditions.

28. The method as recited in claim 22 wherein the manner of use specifies a manner by which an authorized party is able to render the digital work.

29. The method as recited in claim 22 wherein the manner of use specifies the manner by which an authorized party can use the digital work to create a new digital work.

30. The method as recited in claim 22 wherein the manner of use specifies the manner by which an authorized party is able to make a back-up copy of the digital work.

31. The method as recited in claim 22 wherein the manner of use specifies the manner by which an authorized party is able to conceal the digital work on a device on which the digital work is stored.

32. The method as recited in claim 22 wherein the manner of use specifies the manner by which an authorized party is able to delete the digital work from a device on which the digital work is stored.

33. The method as recited in claim 22 wherein the digital work is a software program.

34. The method as recited in claim 33 wherein the manner of use specifies the manner by which an authorized party is able to install the software program.

35. The method as recited in claim 33 wherein the manner of use specifies the manner by which an authorized party is able to uninstall the software program.

36. The method as recited in claim 22 wherein the usage rights comprise a revenue identifier for identifying a revenue owner of the digital work.

37. The method as recited in claim 22 wherein the usage rights comprise a class identifier for identifying a class of rendering devices upon which the digital work can be rendered.

38. The method as recited in claim 22 wherein said step of creating further comprises creating a first version of usage rights having a first set of conditions and a second version of usage rights having a second set of conditions.

39. The method as recited in claim 25 wherein said step of creating comprises selecting one or more codes from a set of predetermined codes to define a valid sequence of codes to indicate the manner of use.

40. The method as recited in claim 25, wherein said step of creating comprises selecting one or more identifiers from a set of predetermined identifiers to define a valid sequence of identifiers to indicate the manner of use.

41. The method as recited in claim 25, wherein said step of creating comprises selecting one or more parameters from a set of predetermined parameters to define a valid sequence of parameters to indicate the manner of use.

35. A digital work comprising:

digital content; and

usage rights associated with said digital content, said usage rights specifying a manner of use by which an authorized party is able to at least one of use and distribute the digital work, said usage rights including symbols selected from a set of predetermined symbols which define a valid sequence of symbols to indicate the manner of use.

36. The digital work as recited in claim 35 wherein said usage rights also specify one or more conditions which must be satisfied before the manner of use may be exercised.

37. The digital work as recited in claim 36, wherein said conditions include symbols selected from a set of predetermined symbols to define a valid sequence of symbols to indicate the conditions.

38. The digital work as recited in claim 37, wherein the conditions include a set of default conditions.

39. The digital work as recited in claim 35 wherein the manner of use specifies a manner by which an authorized party is able to render the digital content.

40. The digital work as recited in claim 35 wherein the manner of use specifies the manner by which an authorized party can permit the digital work to be used to create a new digital work.

41. The digital work as recited in claim 35 wherein the manner of use specifies the manner by which an authorized party is able to make a back-up copy of the digital content.

42. The digital work as recited in claim 35 wherein the manner of use specifies the manner by which an authorized party is able to conceal the digital work on a device on which the digital work is stored.

43. The digital work as recited in claim 35 wherein the manner of use specifies the manner by which an authorized party is able to delete the digital work from a device on which the digital work is stored.

44. The digital work as recited in claim 35 wherein the digital content is a software program.

45. The digital work as recited in claim 44 wherein the manner of use specifies the manner

by which an authorized party is able to install the software program.

46. The digital work as recited in claim 44 wherein the manner of use specifies the manner by which an authorized party is able to uninstall the software program.

47 The digital work as recited in claim 35 wherein the usage rights comprise a revenue identifier for identifying a revenue owner of the digital content.

48 The digital work as recited in claim 35 wherein the usage rights comprise a class identifier for identifying a class of rendering devices upon which the digital content can be rendered.

49. The digital work as recited in claim 35, wherein the symbols are codes.

50. The digital work as recite din claim 35, wherein the symbols are identifiers

51. The digital work as recited in claim 35, wherein the symbols are parameters.

52. A grammar for creating usage rights adapted to be associated with a digital work, said grammar comprising a first set of predetermined symbols for defining a valid sequence of symbols to indicate a manner of use by which a possessor of an associated digital work is able to use or distribute a corresponding digital work.

53. A grammar as recited in claim 52, further comprising a second set of predetermined symbols for defining a valid sequence of symbols to indicate one or more conditions which must be satisfied before the manner of use may be exercised.

54. A grammar as recited in claim 53, wherein said first set of predetermined symbols comprises a first set of grammar elements and said second set of predetermined symbols comprises a second set of grammar elements.

55. A grammar as recited in claim 53, wherein said first set of grammar elements comprises a plurality of predetermined rights categories and predetermined values that can be assigned to said rights categories.

56. A grammar as recited in claim 54, wherein said second set of grammar elements comprises a plurality of predetermined condition categories and predetermined values that can be assigned to said condition categories.

57. A grammar as recited in claim 55, wherein said rights categories comprise alternative categories.

58. A grammar as recited in claim 56, wherein said condition categories comprise alternative categories.

59. A grammar as recited in claim 52, further comprising a third set of predetermined symbols for defining a valid sequence of symbols to indicate fees that must be paid to exercise the manner of use.

60. A grammar as recited in claim 59, wherein said third set of predetermined symbols comprises a third set of grammar elements.

61. A grammar as recited in claim 60, wherein said third set of grammar elements comprises a plurality of predetermined fee categories and predetermined values that can be assigned to said fee categories.

62. A grammar as recited in claim 61, wherein said fee categories comprise alternative categories.